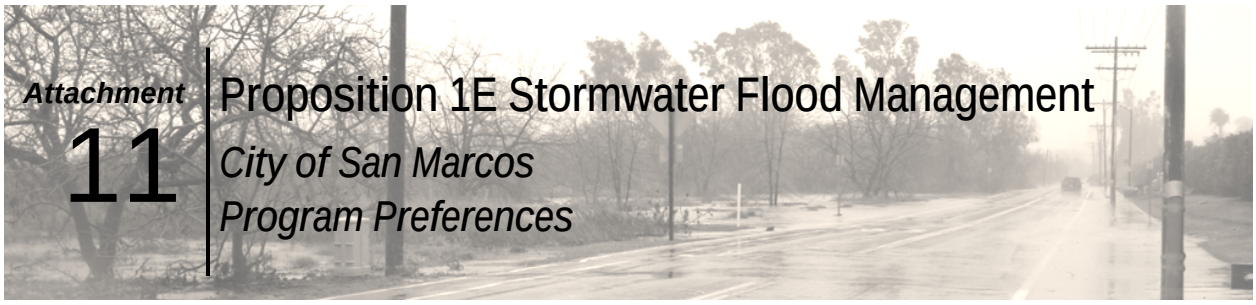

Attachment 11

Proposition 1E Stormwater Flood Management

City of San Marcos Program Preferences

Attachment 11 consists of the following item:

- ✓ **Program Preferences.** This attachment contains information regarding how the *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project* contributes to the Program Preferences established by PRC §75026.(b) and CWC §10544.

Program Preferences

The Program Preferences described in Section II.F of the IRWM Grant Program Guidelines are those set forth in PRC §75026.(b) and CWC §10544. These preferences are summarized in Table 11-1.

Table 11-1: Program Preferences and Statewide Priorities

Program Preferences	Statewide Priorities
1. Include regional projects or programs	1. Drought Preparedness
2. Effectively integrate water management programs and projects within a hydrologic region identified in the California Water Plan; RWQCB region or subdivision; or other region or sub-region specifically identified by DWR	2. Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently
3. Effectively resolve significant water-related conflicts within or between regions	3. Climate Change Response Actions
4. Contribute to attainment of one or more of the objectives of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program	4. Expand Environmental Stewardship
5. Address critical water supply or water quality needs of disadvantaged communities within the region	5. Practice Integrated Flood Management
6. Effectively integrate water management with land use planning	6. Protect Surface Water and Groundwater Quality
7. For eligible SWFM funding, projects which: a) are not receiving State funding for flood control or flood prevention projects pursuant to PRC §5096.824 or §75034 or b) provide multiple benefits, including, but not limited to, water quality improvements, ecosystem benefits, reduction of instream erosion and sedimentation, and groundwater recharge.	7. Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources
8. Address Statewide priorities (*see right*)	8. Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits

This grant proposal is ready to proceed, and is included within the online database of San Diego IRWM projects. As a result of the thorough analysis that was completed with respect to all attachments of this application, and specifically with respect to monitoring, assessment, and performance measures (refer to Attachment 6), it is **fully certain** that this proposal will provide the benefits described below.

This proposal will address each of the aforementioned Program Preferences on a local, regional, or statewide scale. These terms, used to define the breadth and magnitude to which each project addresses the Program Preferences, are defined as follows:

- *Local*: Benefits are focused locally within the project area.
- *Regional*: Benefits extend throughout the San Diego IRWM Region (Region).

- *Statewide*: Benefits are widespread and will benefit not only the Region, but also other areas throughout California.

Table 11-2 identifies the Program Preferences that will be addressed by the project, and demonstrates the magnitude and breadth to which each Program Preference will be addressed.

Table 11-2: Contribution to Program Preferences

	1: Regional Projects	2: Integrate Water Management	3: Resolve Conflict	4: Bay-Delta Objectives	5: Benefits DACs	6:Land Use Planning	6: Eligible SWFM Funding	7: Statewide Priorities
San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Degree of Certainty Preferences Will Be Addressed	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH
Magnitude and Breadth to Which Preference will be Addressed	Reg	Reg	Reg	State	Reg	Reg	State	Reg

Program Preference 1: Include Regional Projects or Programs

As described in detail in the Work Plan (Attachment 3), the City of San Marcos is a copermittee to the San Diego MS4 Permit, along with 20 other regional copermitees. In addition, the City of San Marcos, the County of San Diego, and the City of Escondido are Copermittees to the Upper San Marcos Creek Watershed MS4 Permit. Together, these agencies produced the *Upper San Marcos Creek Watershed Nutrient Management Plan* in January 2010. This document states that the primary water bodies within the watershed are Upper San Marcos Creek and Lake San Marcos, both of which face substantial water quality impacts. The *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project* aims to address and reduce water quality issues within the regionally-identified water bodies of San Marcos Creek and Lake San Marcos. In addition, a collective group of watershed dischargers have established a stakeholder TMDL group that is overseen by the San Diego RWQCB. The objective of this group is to delist San Marcos Creek and Lake San Marcos from the 303(d) list for nutrients.

Therefore, this grant proposal includes a project that has regional significance and will provide solutions to regionally-identified water quality issues. As such, this proposal is considered regional pursuant to CWC §10544, and it is fully certain that it will adhere to this Program Preference on a regional level.

Program Preference 2: Effectively Integrate Water Management Programs and Projects within the San Diego IRWM Region

This proposal will address this Program Preference of effectively integrating water quality, habitat restoration, and flood control efforts into a single multi-benefit project. Activities associated with the *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project* are located within the City of San Marcos and portions of San Diego County, which are included within the San Diego IRWM region. In addition, by meeting seven of the nine objectives set forth within the 2007 San Diego IRWM Plan, this proposal will effectively integrate with other projects and programs being implemented as part of the San Diego IRWM program.

Program Preference 3: Effectively Resolve Significant Water-Related Conflicts

The San Diego IRWM Plan objectives were established as a result of an open and transparent stakeholder process, where all San Diego Regional Water Management Group (RWMG), Regional Advisory Committee (RAC), and other stakeholders were invited to voice their significant issues and conflicts within the region. As stated previously, this proposal addresses seven of the nine objectives set forth within the San Diego IRWM Plan, and therefore effectively resolves water-related conflicts identified by San Diego's comprehensive stakeholder group. In addition, this proposal resolves local funding issues by aiming to increase outside sources of funding for a critical flood control infrastructure project. Lastly, due to the connection between the *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project,* the *Upper San Marcos Creek Watershed Nutrient Management Plan*, and the TMDL stakeholder group, this project will

help resolve regional water quality issues, which have the potential to generate substantial water-related conflicts. Due to the degree of analysis performed on this proposal, it is fully certain that it will meet the Program Preference of effectively resolving significant water-related conflicts on a regional level.

Program Preference 4: Contribute to Attainment of One or More of the Objectives of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program has the following four objectives:

- *Water Quality*: to invest in projects that improve the State's water quality from source to tap.
- *Water Supply*: comprised of five critical elements: conveyance, storage, environmental water account, water use efficiency, and water transfer.
- *Ecosystem Restoration*: aims at restoring habitats, ecosystem functions, and native species.
- *Levee Integrity*: to protect water supplies by reducing the threat of levee failures.

The *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project* indirectly contributes to one of the four CALFED Bay-Delta Program objectives: water supply. However, there is low certainty about how well it will meet the Program Preference of contributing to the CALFED Bay-Delta Program.

Water Supply: This project will improve the quality of water within a local privately-owned water supply reservoir (Lake San Marcos), thereby improving the reliability of this water supply source. Currently, the San Diego Region supplements the majority (between 80 and 90 percent) of its water supply with imported water that is partially supplied from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay Delta. By improving the reliability and quality of local water supplies, this project could potentially reduce future demands on imported Bay-Delta water. However, the current orchard and golf courses users of the supply would be unlikely to purchase imported water should this supply become infeasible.

Program Preference 5: Address Critical Water Supply or Water Quality Needs of DACs

DWR specifies that preference will be given to proposals that include safe drinking water and water quality projects that serve disadvantaged communities (DACs). Attachments 7 through 10 of this proposal describe in detail the benefits that would occur as a result of this project. In particular, Attachment 9 describes how this project would improve the water quality of San Marcos Creek and Lake San Marcos, which are currently impacted by severe water quality issues. As demonstrated within Figure 11-1, these water bodies are directly connected to communities that meet the statewide definition of DACs. Therefore, this grant proposal includes a water quality project that benefits DACs within the San Diego IRWM Region.

Program Preference 6: Effectively Integrate Water Management with Land Use Planning

The *San Macros Creek Floodway Improvement Project* is part of the San Marcos Creek Specific Plan (Specific Plan), which was approved by the City Council in August 2007. The Specific Plan includes land use planning goals, objectives, and strategies, as well as environmental planning efforts such as proposed floodway improvements along the north and south side of San Marcos Creek to alleviate flooding hazards in the project area. According to the City of San Marcos:

> *"the Specific Plan, which has been developed with a thorough analysis of environmental conditions and input from City decision-makers, landowners, neighbors and the community-at-large, provides a comprehensive vision for the downtown Creek District along with goals, policies and development standards to guide future public and private actions relating to the area's development and conservation of open space and natural resources."*

Therefore, this project is a prime example of effectively integrating water management with land use planning efforts. Due to the degree of analysis performed on this project, it is fully certain that this grant proposal will meet the Program Preference of integrating water management with land use planning in the region (on a regional level).

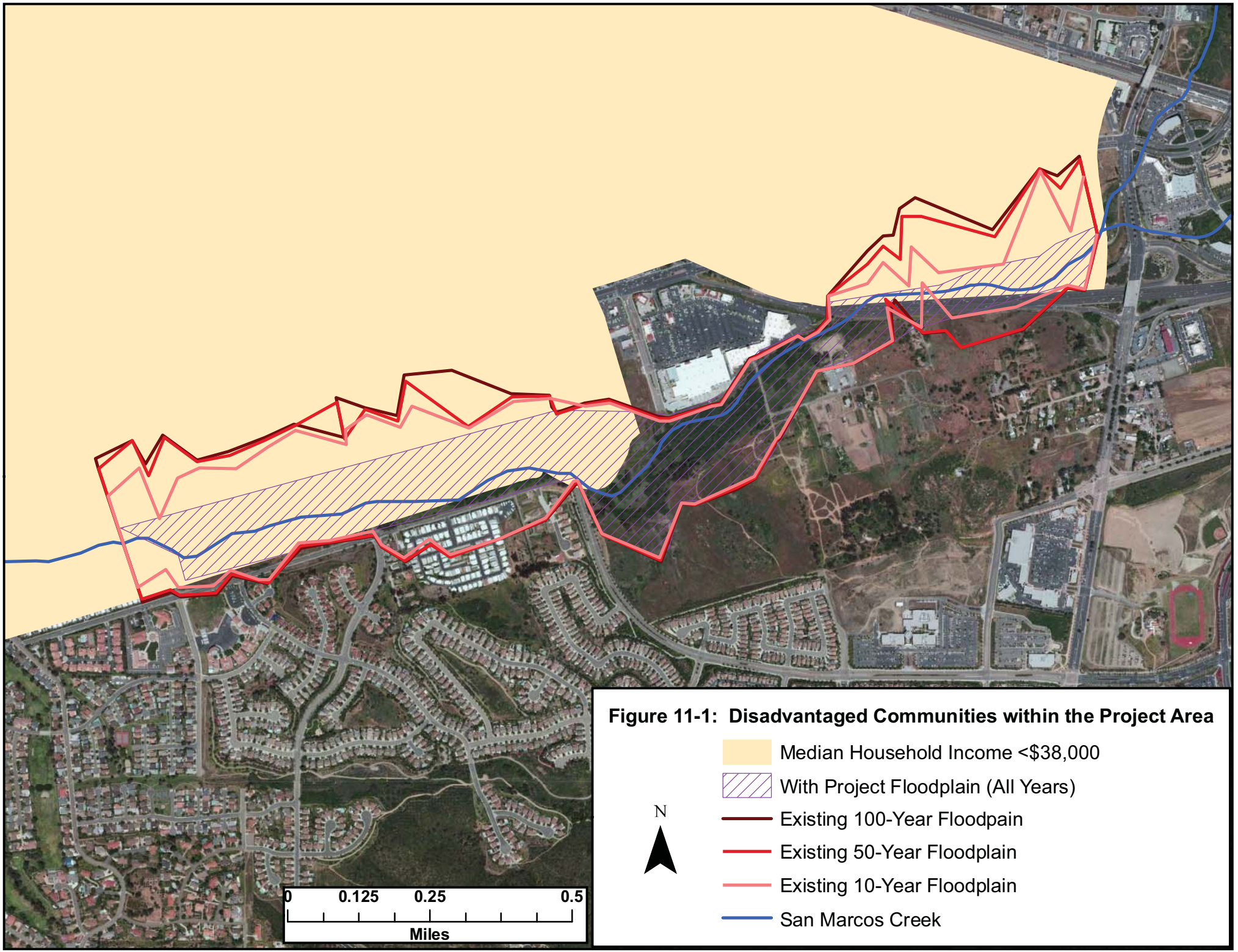
Figure 11-1: Disadvantaged Communities within the Project Area
Median Household Income <$38,000
With Project Floodplain (All Years)
Existing 100-Year Floodpain
Existing 50-Year Floodplain
Existing 10-Year Floodplain
San Marcos Creek
N
0
0.125
0.25
0.5
Miles

Program Preference 7: Qualifications for Eligible Stormwater Flood Management Funding

DWR Guidelines note that preference will be given to proposals that provide multiple benefits, including, but not limited to, water quality improvements, ecosystem benefits, reduction of instream erosion and sedimentation, and groundwater recharge. The multiple benefits expected as a result of the *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project* are described throughout Attachments 7 through 10 of this grant proposal. Improvements to the San Marcos Creek floodway are anticipated to provide substantial flood reduction, water supply, water quality, habitat, and recreational benefits throughout the project area (locally), throughout the San Diego Region, and throughout the State of California. Therefore, this proposal meets requirements set forth by DWR for eligible stormwater flood management funding. Due to the degree of analysis performed on this project, it is fully certain that this grant proposal will meet the Program Preference on a statewide level.

Program Preference 8: Address Statewide Priorities

This proposal will directly address eight of the nine Statewide Priorities established by DWR. Table 11-3 demonstrates the Statewide Priorities that are addressed by the *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project*. Based on the level of analysis completed for this project, it is fully certain that this grant proposal will achieve the Statewide Priorities on a regional level (throughout the San Diego Region).

Table 11-3: Contribution to Statewide Priorities

Proposed Projects	Drought Preparedness	Reuse Water More Efficiently	Climate Change Response Actions	Expand Environmental Stewardship	Practice Integrated Flood Management	Protect Surface/ Groundwater Quality	Improve Tribal Water/Natural Resources	Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits
San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓

Drought Preparedness: DWR Guidelines note that this priority applies to proposals that contain projects that effectively address long-term drought preparedness by contributing to sustainable water supply and reliability during water shortages. The 2005 Urban Water Management Plan for the Vista Irrigation District, which serves the City of San Marcos, notes that local reservoirs are utilized in dire emergency (drought) situations. Lake San Marcos is privately owned, and is currently not utilized as an emergency water supply source. However, this project, by improving the water quality of Lake San Marcos, could potentially increase reliability during water shortages by allowing Lake San Marcos to function as a sustainable local water supply source. In this respect, the *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project* will help to establish system interties by increasing the reliability of Lake San Marcos as part of the local water supply.

Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently: DWR Guidelines state that this priority applies to proposals that include projects that implement water use efficiency, water conservation, recycling and reuse to help meet future demands, increase water supply reliability, and adapt to climate change. Improvements to San Marcos Creek proposed as part of the *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project*, will capture, store, and naturally treat (through biofiltration) urban stormwater runoff within the San Marcos Creek floodway. In addition, this project will incorporate and implement low impact development (LID) design features, techniques, and practices to reduce stormwater runoff. These actions will improve local stormwater quality, thereby improving water quality in local water bodies and improving the efficiency with which stormwater can be reused as a local water supply source.

Climate Change Response Actions: DWR Guidelines state that this priority applies to Water Management actions that will address the key Climate Change issues of adaptation to climate change, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and reduction in energy consumption. The guidelines note that desirable

proposals include those that use and reuse water more efficiently. As noted in the section above, the *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project* will incorporate stormwater capture, storage, and infiltration efforts that will allow the utilization of stormwater as a local water supply source. In addition, incorporation of low impact design elements as part of the *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project* will enhance groundwater recharge opportunities within the project area.

Expand Environmental Stewardship: DWR Guidelines note that this priority applies to proposals that contain projects that practice, promote, improve, and expand environmental stewardship to protect and enhance the environment by improving watersheds, floodplains, and instream functions and to sustain water and flood management ecosystems. One of the objectives of the *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project* is to provide ecosystem restoration through habitat restoration, ecosystem improvement and preservation, and fish and wildlife protection and enhancement. In line with the aforementioned objective, this project contains substantial efforts to enhance and improve the San Marcos Creek and its tributaries. Attachment 6 of this proposal outlines performance measures that will be carried out to ensure that environmental stewardship and ecosystem-related benefits of this proposal are realized.

Practice Integrated Flood Management: DWR Guidelines note that this priority pertains to proposals that contain projects that promote and practice integrated flood management to provide multiple benefits such as improved flood protection, more sustainable flood and water management systems, enhanced floodplain ecosystems, and LID techniques that store and infiltrate runoff while protecting groundwater. The primary goal of this proposal is to reduce flood damage impacts by protecting infrastructure and ecosystems and avoiding public safety and health impacts associated with flooding. As such, this proposal will provide each of the benefits listed above. Better emergency preparedness and response will occur as a result of the *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project,* because this project will reduce the flood hazard zone within the City of San Marcos and reduce the need for emergency response to occur with respect to wet weather events. Along the same lines, this project will provide improved flood protection by constructing improvements to contain the 100-year floodplain within San Marcos Creek and therefore substantially increasing flood protection to local residents. The system provided by this project will be a more sustainable flood and water management system, because it provides a sustainable and long-term solution to local flooding and water quality issues. Improvements to the San Marcos Creek floodplain will enhance the local floodplain ecosystem by providing biological mitigation activities and improving local water quality issues. Lastly, as mentioned previously, this project will contain LID construction activities that work to improve natural (biofiltration) of stormwater runoff.

Protect Surface Water and Groundwater Quality: DWR Guidelines note that this priority pertains to proposals that include protecting and restoring surface water and groundwater quality to safeguard public and environmental health and secure water supplies for beneficial uses. Water quality improvements expected as a result of the *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project* will be provided to both San Marcos Creek and Lake San Marcos, and will aim to secure these water supplies for beneficial uses outlined within the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin 9*.

Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits: DWR Guidelines note that this priority pertains to proposals that develop multi-benefit projects with consideration of affected DACs and vulnerable populations and contain projects that address safe drinking water and wastewater treatment needs of DACs. As noted previously, the *San Marcos Creek Floodway Improvement Project* will address stormwater quality issues near DACs within the City of San Marcos and the County of San Diego (refer to Figure 11-1). This attachment has served to demonstrate that this project will provide multiple benefits to the San Diego Region and the State of California, and therefore qualifies as a multi-benefit project that considers DACs and vulnerable populations.